

a lip formed of a polymeric second material, the second material being flexible relative to the first material, the lip being secured along said side wall edge adjacent the cup opening, the second material of the lip being molded into the side wall opening to mechanically couple the lip to the vacuum cup; and

a handle coupled to the vacuum cup.

¹⁷22. (Once Amended) The obstetrical vacuum extractor of claim ¹⁰21 comprising at least two side wall openings, the side wall openings being circumferentially disposed around the side wall.

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed December 8, 1998, rejected claims 21 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as having no clear antecedent basis for "the opening." Claim 21 and 22 have now been amended to clarify that said openings are the side wall openings.

The Office Action further rejected claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed had possession of the claimed invention. The specification has been amended on page 8 to clarify this point. The amendment to the specification does not present any new matter as claim 3 as it is currently pending was contained in the original application as filed.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 3, 21, and 22 are now in form for allowance. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

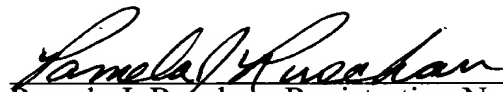
In re Appln. of Hulse et al.
Serial No. 08/853,422

Conclusion

For the above stated reasons, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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